Applicant: Fletcher et al.

Serial No.: Continuatin of 09/172,969

Filed

: August 22, 2003

Page

: 7 of 7

REMARKS

Attorney's Docket No.: 07703-245005 / MES0083

This application claims the benefit of priority of U.S. Serial No. 09/172,969, filed October 14, 1998, which is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 08/710,787, filed September 20, 1996.

Claims 32-43 are pending.

The subject matter of cancelled claims 1-24 is the subject of related pending application no. 09/518,627.

New claims 36-43 relate to the use of a keypad to identify the physical arrangement of coin tubes in a cassette with which a coin validator is to be operated. The claims of the parent application no. 09/172,969 were finally rejected by the Board of Appeals under 35 U.S.C. 103 based on the Board's interpretation that the language of those claims did "not require a change in the physical arrangement of the coin tubes." Applicant submits that new claims 36-43 are patentable over the prior art of record.

Claims 32-35 relate to subject matter described, for example, at page 15, line 24 – page 17, line 9.

Applicant asks that all claims be examined in view of the amendment to the claims. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8/22/03

Samuel Borodach Reg. No. 38,388

Fish & Richardson P.C. 45 Rockefeller Plaza, Suite 2800 New York, New York 10111

Telephone: (212) 765-5070 Facsimile: (212) 258-2291

30159195.doc